

CLAIMS

We claim:

- 5 1. A substantially purified salivary *Lu. longipalpis* polypeptide.
2. The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide comprises
 - a) an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to an amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67;
 - 15 b) a conservative variant of the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67;
 - 20 c) an immunogenic fragment comprising at least eight consecutive amino acids of the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, that specifically binds to an antibody that specifically binds the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, respectively; or
 - 25 d) the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, and wherein administration of the polypeptide to a subject produces an immune response to *Lu. longipalpis*.
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3. The *Lu. longipalpis* polypeptide of claim 2, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, or a conservative variant thereof.

4. The *Lu. longipalpis* polypeptide of claim 3, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67.

5. An antigenic fragment of the polypeptide of claim 4.

6. The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67.

7. An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 1.

8. The nucleic acid of claim 7, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 62, SEQ ID NO: 64, SEQ ID NO: 66, or SEQ ID NO: 68, or a degenerate variant thereof.

9. The nucleic acid of claim 7, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16,

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SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 62, SEQ ID NO: 64, SEQ ID NO: 66, or SEQ ID NO: 68.

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10. The nucleic acid of claim 7, wherein the nucleic acid encodes an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 62, SEQ ID NO: 64, SEQ ID NO: 66, or SEQ ID NO: 68.

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11. The nucleic acid of claim 7, operably linked to an expression control sequence.

12. The nucleic acid of claim 11, wherein the expression control sequence is a promoter.

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13. The nucleic acid of claim 12, wherein the promoter is an inducible or constitutive promoter.

14. The nucleic acid of claim 13, wherein the promoter is a cytomegalovirus promoter.

15. A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 7.

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16. The vector of claim 15, wherein the vector is a plasmid.

17. The vector of claim 15, wherein the vector is a viral vector.

18. A host cell transformed with the vector of claim 15.

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19. An antibody that specifically binds the polypeptide of claim 1.

20. The antibody of claim 19, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

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21. The antibody of claim 20, comprising a detectable label.

22. The antibody of claim 21, wherein the label is a fluorescent, enzymatic or radioactive label.

23. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

24. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the nucleic acid of claim 7 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

25. A method for inducing an immune response to a *Lu. longipalpis* polypeptide in a subject, comprising:

10 administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of :

a) an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to an amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67;

15 b) a conservative variant of the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67;

20 c) an immunogenic fragment comprising at least eight consecutive amino acids of the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, that specifically binds to an antibody that specifically binds the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67,

25 respectively; or

30 d) the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49,

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SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67; or

(e) a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide set forth in (a), (b), (c), or (d), thereby inducing the immune response to the *Lu. longipalpis* polypeptide in a
5 subject.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the immune response is a T cell response.

27. The method of claim 25, wherein the immune response is a B cell response.

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28. The method of claim 25, wherein the subject is a non-human veterinary subject.

29. The method of claim 25, wherein the subject is a dog.

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30. The method of claim 25, wherein the subject is a human.

31. A method for inhibiting a symptom of a *Leishmania* infection or preventing a *Leishmania* infection in a subject, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of:

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a) an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to an amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67;

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b) a conservative variant of the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67;

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c) an immunogenic fragment comprising at least eight consecutive amino acids of the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, that specifically binds to an antibody that specifically binds the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID

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NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67,

5 respectively; or

d) the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67; or

(e) a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide set forth in (a), (b), (c), or (d);
thereby inhibiting the symptom of the *Leishmania* infection or preventing the *Leishmania* infection.

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32. Use of a composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 1 or a nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 1 for the manufacture of a medicament.

33. Use of the composition of claim 32, in conjunction with a composition comprising a *P. ariasi* or a *P. perniciosus* polypeptide for the manufacture of a medicament.

34. A method of diagnosing *Leishmania* infection in a subject, comprising:
contacting a solid substrate comprising at least three, six, or ten polypeptides, wherein each of the polypeptides comprises one amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, or an immunogenic fragment thereof;

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contacting the solid substrate with a sample obtained from the subject; and
detecting binding of a component of the sample to at least one polypeptide on the solid substrate, wherein detection of binding of the component to the substrate indicates that the subject is infected with *Leishmania*,

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thereby diagnosing *Leishmania* infection in the subject.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein one of the at least three polypeptides comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein another of the at least three polypeptides

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comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 23, and wherein a further of the at least three polypeptides comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 39.

36. The method of claim 34, wherein the solid substrate comprises at least six polypeptides,
5 wherein a first polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, wherein
a second polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 11, wherein a
third polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 19, wherein a fourth
polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 29, wherein a fifth
polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 55, and wherein a sixth
10 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 59.

37. The method of claim 34, wherein the solid substrate comprises a polystyrene bead, a
chip, a membrane, or a plate.

15 38. The method of claim 34, wherein detecting comprises contacting the component bound
to the solid substrate with a labeled secondary antibody.